



HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill: SF511
Committee: Justice Systems (Judicial Budget)
Date: 6/27/2011
Staff: Amanda Freel (1-5230)

SF 511

SF 511 is the Justice Systems Budget Bill. The final version of the bill spends \$156,411,822 for FY11-FY12 and \$78,205,911 for FY12-FY13.

The initial Senate proposal for Judicial Branch for FY11-FY12 was \$156,521,822. This is \$110,000 more than was appropriated in the final bill for the Judicial Branch.

FY12-FY13 is funded at 50% of the FY11-FY12 budget

Judicial Branch-

Division I– Judicial Branch FY 2011-2012

Section 1. Appropriations to the Judicial Branch

1. FY12
 - a. Appropriations to the Judicial Branch for Operations \$154,111,822
 - b. Appropriations to the jury and witness revolving fund for the reimbursement of juror and witness fees, mileage and costs. \$2,300,000
2. Prohibits duplication of state payroll, budgeting and accounting systems
3. Monthly financial statements to be sent to LSA and DOM
4. Requires the judicial branch to focus on collecting delinquent fines and fees
5. Office of the Clerk of the District Court should operate in all 99 counties and be accessible to the public as much as reasonably possible.
6. Notification sent to the LSA prior to any interdepartmental transfer of funds and specifies what should be included in the notice.
7. Requires a semi-annual report to LSA on fines, surcharges and court costs collected through ICIS. Also requires continued sharing of information through ICIS with departments and government agencies.
8. January 1, 2012 is the set date to report to the General Assembly and LSA on the enhanced court collecting fund and modernization fund.
9. Requires the judicial branch to obtain bids from Iowa Prison Industries for office Furniture Purchases, exceeding \$5,000

Section 2. Civil Trials-Location

If all parties in a civil trial agree, the trial may take place in a county contiguous to the county with proper jurisdiction. If the trial is moved, court personnel shall treat the case as if a change of venue occurred

Section 3. Travel Reimbursement

Permits a judicial officer to waive travel reimbursement for any travel outside the county of residence

Section 4. Posting of Reports in Electronic Format- Legislative Services Agency

Requires all reports provided to LSA to be in an electronic format. Reports are posted to the website and members are notified.

Section 5. Judicial Officers- Unpaid Leave

Permits the Supreme Court to order judicial officers to take unpaid leave in the same manner as non-contract personnel.

Section 6. Iowa Communications Network

Specifies intent of the General Assembly that the courts use the ICN in lieu of traveling.

Division II – Judicial Branch FY 2012-2013

Language is the same

FY12-FY13 funded at 50% of FY11-FY12